I CLAIM:

1.   A method for use in utilizing a print service, the method comprising:

receiving a print request at a local client computing device; and

5   displaying a remotely served print interface on the local client computing device, the print interface being configured to request a printing parameter relating to the print request.

10   2.   The method of claim 1, wherein the print request is received by an application program executed on the local client computing device.

3.   The method of claim 2, further comprising, after receiving the

15   print request via the application program, displaying a print dialog menu on the local client computing device, the print dialog menu including a remote print service option.

20   4.   The method of claim 5, further comprising, in response to user selection of the remote print service option, creating a printable file for the print request.

25   5.   The method of claim 4, wherein the printable file is created by a print service print driver called by the application program.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the local client computing device includes a browser, the method further comprising, after receiving the print request, opening the browser to an address from which the print interface is remotely served.

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7. The method of claim 1, wherein the local client computing device includes a client initialization program, the method further comprising, in response to receiving the print request, opening a connection between the client

10 initialization program and a workflow application server at a predetermined workflow application server address.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising, downloading a

15 repository address from the workflow application server.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising, uploading a printable file corresponding to the print request to a repository at the repository address.

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10. The method of claim 7, further comprising, downloading a user interface address from the workflow application server.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the remotely served print interface is served from the user interface address.

12.   The method of claim 7, wherein the client initialization program is called by a print service print driver.

5   13.   The method of claim 1, further comprising, receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request.

14.   The method of claim 13, further comprising, sending the printable

10   file from the local client computing device to a remote publisher for printing.

15.   The method of claim 14, wherein sending the printable file to a remote publisher includes sending the printable file from the local client

15   computing device to a repository.

16.   The method of claim 15, wherein sending the printable file to a remote publisher further includes sending the printable file from the repository

20   to the remote publisher.

17.   The method of claim 14, further comprising, sending the printing parameter from the local client computing device to a remote publisher.

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18.   The method of claim 1, wherein a print service workflow application server remotely serves the print interface to the local client computing device.

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19.   A method for sending a print job to a remote publisher for printing, the method comprising:

receiving a print request at a local client computing device;

creating a printable file in response to the print request;

10   displaying a remotely served print interface on the local client computing device;

requesting and receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter relating to the print request; and

sending the printable file and the printing parameter to a selected remote

15   publisher for printing.

20.   A print service system for use by a user, comprising:

a print service workflow application server configured to serve a print

20   interface via a wide area network; and

a local computing device configured to receive a print request from the user and, in response, download and display a print interface from the workflow application server via the wide area network, wherein the print interface is configured to receive a printing parameter relating to the print request.
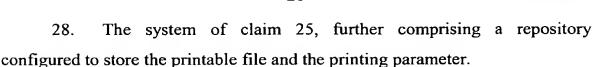
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21.   The system of claim 20, wherein the printing parameter is a selected destination remote publisher associated with the print service.

5   22.   The system of claim 20, wherein the local computing device is configured to generate a printable file relating to the print request.

23.   The system of claim 22, wherein the printable file is a native file.

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24.   The system of claim 22, wherein the printable file is a printable file generated by a print driver.

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25.   The system of claim 22, further comprising a remote publisher, wherein the local computing device is configured to send the printable file to the remote publisher.

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26.   The system of claim 25, wherein the remote publisher, print service workflow application server, and local client computing device are configured to communicate via a wide area network.

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27.   The system of claim 25, wherein the workflow application server is configured to cause the printable file and the printing parameter to be sent from the local computing device to the remote publisher.

28.   The system of claim 25, further comprising a repository configured to store the printable file and the printing parameter.

5   29.   The system of claim 28, wherein the workflow application server is configured to instruct the local computing device to send the printable file to the repository, and the remote publisher includes a remote publisher server configured to download the printable file and printing parameter from the repository.

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30.   A print service system for use by a user, comprising:

a local client computing device configured to connect to a wide area network;

15   a remote publisher server configured to connect to the wide area network;

a repository server and associated database, the repository server being configured to connect to the wide area network; and

a print service workflow application server configured to connect to the

20   wide area network;

wherein the local client computing device is configured to contact the print service workflow application server in response to receiving a print request, and the print service workflow application server is configured to instruct the local client computing device to upload a printable file associated

25   with the print request to the repository server for storage in the repository database; and

wherein the print service workflow application server is configured to instruct the remote publisher server to download the printable file from the repository for printing.

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31.   A print service system utility, comprising a client initialization program configured to establish a connection with a remote commercial print service at a predetermined address on a computer network.

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32.   The print service system utility of claim 31, wherein the client initialization program is configured to download an upload address from the print service.
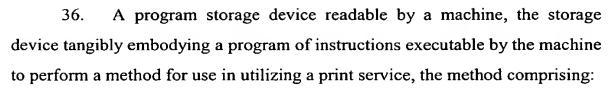
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33.   The print service system utility of claim 32 wherein the client initialization program is configured to launch an upload module to upload a printable file to the commercial print service.

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34.   The print service system utility of claim 31, wherein the client initialization program is configured to download a user interface address from the print service.

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35.   The print service system utility of claim 34, wherein the client initialization program is configured to launch a browser directed at the user interface address, to thereby display a print interface.

36.   A program storage device readable by a machine, the storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for use in utilizing a print service, the method comprising:

receiving a print request at a local client computing device; and
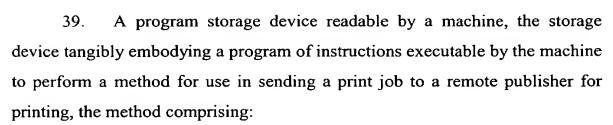
5   displaying a remotely served print interface on the local client computing device, the print interface being configured to request a printing parameter relating to the print request.

10   37.   The program storage device of claim 36, wherein the method further comprises sending (1) a printable file corresponding to the print request, and (2) the printing parameter, to a selected remote publisher for printing.

15   38.   The program storage device of claim 37, sending the printable file to the remote publisher is accomplished by uploading the printable file to a repository, and downloading the printable file from the repository to the remote publisher.

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39.   A program storage device readable by a machine, the storage device tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for use in sending a print job to a remote publisher for printing, the method comprising:

5   receiving a print request at a local client computing device;

creating a printable file in response to the print request;

displaying a remotely served print interface on the local client computing device;

requesting and receiving via the print interface, a printing parameter

10   relating to the print request; and

sending the printable file and the printing parameter to a selected remote publisher for printing.